A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Attendance of Hindus at church service on Sundays is not compulsory.

(c) Like most other schools, the settlement schools are closed for the Michaelmas holidays.

(d) No contribution is made by Government.

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" With regard to the answer to clause (a) of this question, I wish to know whether the Government made any enquiry ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The answer has been given after making the enquiry."

The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI :—" The answer to clause (b) is that attendance of Hindus at church service on Sundays is not compulsory. I wish to know whether there is any inducement by the masters to the pupils to attend the lectures ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " No, Sir."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" The answer to clause (c) says that like most other schools, the settlement schools are closed for the Michaelmas holidays. Is it closed in accordance with the desire of the pupils ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Was any notice put up in any prominent place that it is entirely optional to the Hindus ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " They know that it is optional."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Is it a fact that after the settlement was opened there, there have been many conversions from Hinduism to Christianity among the settlers ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The Government are not aware of it."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Do the Government know whether there has been any conversion at all ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " No."

Mr. P. BHAKTHAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" Will the Government enquire ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have already replied, Sir."

Labour

Appointment of the District Labour Officer, Malabar.

* 1162 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have appointed a successor to the late Honorary District Labour Officer for Malabar ; if not, when the officer will be appointed ; and

(b) what arrangements have been made to attend to the duties of the District Labour Officer?

A.—(a) No. It is proposed to appoint a full-time District Labour Officer for Malabar from the year 1929-30.

(b) The Tahsildar of Calicut is attending to the duties of the District Labour Officer in addition to his own duties.

Mr. V. I MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" May I know whether the Government have received petitions from the depressed classes people of Malabar ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice."

Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" May I know whether the Government will consider the claims of the depressed classes for the appointment of the District Labour Officer, Malabar ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not possible for me to give any undertaking at this stage."

Police

Enquiry into the double murder at Melapalaiyam.

* 1163 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that a double murder was committed at Melapalaiyam, Tinnevelly district, in August last in the residence of the murdered and that the murderers have not been traced up to date ;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to call for the details of investigation and place the same before the Council ; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the desirability of issuing necessary orders for placing the enquiry in the hands of Police officers from outside the district?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) No.

If any one concerned is dissatisfied with the investigation he should in the first instance represent matters to the District Superintendent of Police or District Magistrate.

Mr ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" With reference to clause (a), may I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not necessary. The hon. Member may bring it to the notice of the District Magistrate."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" In case the District Magistrate or the District Police Officer is not minded to take any interest in the matter, may I know whether the Government will not interest itself directly ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Well, if they refuse to take notice, the Government may then be addressed."